

# EDEX INC

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Commissioner for Patents  
United States Patent and Trademark Office  
Washington D. C., 20231

Art Unit 3753  
Primary Examiner John Rivell  
Application No. 09/697,728  
Applicants Huff et al

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MAY 31 2002  
TECHNOLOGY CENTER R3700

May 23, 2002

Dear Examiner Rivell,

In response to your office action of March 7, 2002 the applicants submit for your consideration:

- 12-17/02 N/E 1. Amended claim 12: A fluid filtering system adapted to separate a permeate from a feedstock fluid, said system comprising: (a) single pump (b) filter (c) said valve of claim 2 wherein said feedstock conduit connects to sump tank containing feedstock and said retentate release conduit connects to concentrate collection tank.
- 12-17/02 RME 2. Amended claim 19: A fluid filtering system according to claim 11 wherein said pump comprises pressure sensor to measure outflow pressure of said pump.
3. Corrected Figure 2, now labeled "PRIOR ART".
- 12-17/02 RME 4. Agreement that in claim 6 line 1, "form" should read --"from"--.
5. All approved claims are generic: According to your Office Action of 06/04/01 "Applicant is required under 35 U.S.C. 121 to elect a single disclosed species for prosecution on the merit to which the claim shall be restricted if no generic claim is finally held to be allowable". As required, Group 1, species A was selected for prosecution.

It is agreed that claims 1-11, Amended claim 12, 13-18, Amended claim 19, and 20 are not readable on Fig 10 and 12. However each of these claims is readable on Fig 3, Fig 11 and Fig 13. A major point

made in the patent application is that different filtration circuitry can be achieved with the identical valve by means of very simple changes to the plumbing connections. The claims 1-11, Amended claim 12, 13-18, Amended claim 19, and 20 are in fact generic regarding Figs 3, 11, and 13 because the identical valve functions in all three circuits.

The applicants are in agreement with all remaining issues stated in your office action of March 7, 2002.

The proper individual to correspond with in the future is:

Karl Huff  
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Also, co-inventor Allan Chace may contact you regarding future patent activities.

Sincerely,



Karl Huff  
Co-inventor